

STATE of MICHIGAN VFW
2026-2027 POST and DISTRICT ALL-STATE PROGRAM

The All-State Program is designed to recognize outstanding VFW Posts and Districts for their participation in all VFW programs, membership recruitment and community service. The mission of the VFW is to serve our communities, and All-State recognition is a way the VFW can say thank you to our involved membership.

Post Criteria:

To be in contention for All-State Honors, a Post must meet the following criteria:

1. Post must submit an All-State application to the Director prior to June 30, 2027, preferably by Email. (The application can be found on the Department website on this program page.)
2. Post must be 100% plus one in membership with new or reinstated members by June 30, 2027.
3. Post must be in good standing with:
 - Post Bylaws approved by the Commander-in-Chief, and
 - All Quarterly Reports of Trustee audits received by Department Headquarters prior to opening of the 2027 State Convention, and
 - Proof of paid Quartermaster's bond prior to December 31, 2026, and
 - Proof of submission to and receipt from IRS of annual IRS 990 for the last reporting period on date of inspection or proof of extension is on file, and
 - Submission of 2027-2028 Post Officers Report of Election prior to opening of 2027 State Convention, and
 - All past and current year State Convention delegates fees must be paid prior to opening of the 2027 State Convention.
4. The Post Commander and Quartermaster must attend at least one in person State conducted Veterans Training Seminar (VTS). (or in lieu of the QM, the Post Assistant QM or Post Trustee if QM cannot attend. Must be listed on the VTS Registration Form before the VTS.)
5. Post must submit a community service activity report through the State website report form by the 25th of every month for the preceding month for at least 10 months of the reporting period, July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.
6. Post must submit a hospital activity report through the State website report form by the 25th of every month for the preceding month for at least 10 months of the reporting period, July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.
7. Post must submit a legislative report through the State community service activity website report form by the 25th of the month for the preceding month for at least six months of the reporting period, July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.
8. Post must submit a Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen entry to their District for judging. If the Post cannot sponsor both programs they may make a \$50 donation to the District Program for the missing program verified by the District Quartermaster.
9. Post must be registered for a VFW National Day of Service project to be performed between May 1 and May 31, 2027, and report the completed project through the State community service website report form clearly identifying the completed project as the Post VFW National Day of Service project and as may be required by the National Day of Service guidelines. Post projects must be registered with National on the National Day of Service webpage prior to May 1, 2027, or as required by the National Program instructions. Post projects must be of service to the community generally outside of normal activities of the Post following National project guidelines.

10. Post must have a Membership Recruiting Table at at least one public event. Post must report the activity with pictures showing conspicuous VFW signage such as tablecloth, banner, etc. to the State Membership Director prior to June 30, 2027.
11. Post must order a minimum of 500 Buddy Poppies prior to June 30, 2027.

Posts must earn a minimum of 250 points with at least 125 points coming from Community Service reports as described below.

Community Service:

Points may be earned in this category by choosing from the following:

- A. 5 points for every parade a post takes part in.
- B. 5 points for every time a post donates their hall for a benefit.
- C. 5 points for every time a post donates their hall for a community function.
- D. 5 points for every event that a post does that involves the community for example: Holiday, Farm Markets, School Events and sporting events.
- E. 10 points for every community project done for example, cleaning parks, highways, cemeteries
- F. 10 points for posting Post's Colors (US Flag and Post Flag) at the VFW National Home on Michigan Day. Colors must remain posted for the entire day.
- G. 5 points per person who volunteers at Camp Trotter up to a maximum of 50 points.
- H. 10 Points for each nomination submitted for the following categories to State Safety Program Director (one nomination per category allowed):
 - a. Firefighter of the Year
 - b. Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
 - c. Dispatcher of the Year
 - d. EOD Technician of the Year
 - e. EMT/Paramedic of the Year
- I. 10 points each for Post Senior Vice and Junior Vice Commander attending a State conducted VTS. 5 points for any other Post member attending a VTS.
- J. 5 points for hosting or taking part in a POW/MIA Ceremony. 10 points if the activity is open to the public. 10 additional points will be awarded if the ceremony is held on the third Friday of September 2026. The ceremony with pictures must be reported to the State POW/MIA Director.
- K. 5 points for a Post having an active Facebook and/or Website. (must provide web address to the State All-State Director)
- L. 5 points for each hosted Red Cross Blood Drive reported to the State Hospital Director through the State online Hospital Activity Report. (maximum of four events)
- M. 10 Points for each nomination submitted for the following Youth Activity programs (one nomination per category allowed):
 - a. Junior ROTC Cadet of the Year
 - b. Young Marine Cadet of the Year
 - c. Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year
 - d. Scout of the Year Candidate in one or more of the below categories:
 - i. Eagle Scout
 - ii. Girl Scout Gold Award
 - iii. Venture Scout Summit
 - iv. Sea Scout QM Award).

Nominations must be submitted to the State Youth Activities Director.
- N. 10 points for supporting a local homeless veteran's shelter or an individual homeless veteran with a fundraiser or other supportive action. Documentation of the support must be submitted to the State Homeless Veteran Program Director.

- O. 10 points for hosting a symposium open to the public on PTSD, Veteran Mental Health, and Welfare and/or Veteran Suicide Prevention. Posts may collaborate with other organizations and agencies. Posts should contact the State Mental Health Director for information about local agencies and organizations in their area.
- P. 5 points per member who registers at a Department Conference / Convention.
- Q. 5 points per member, up to a maximum of 25 points, for attending a Veteran Suicide awareness event. The event must be approved in advance by the State Mental Health Director.
- R. 5 points for every new or upgraded Life Member.
- S. 10 points for every new or increased level of Legacy Life Member.
- T. 5 points for ½ page ad or 10 points for a full-page ad placed in conference ad book (2026 Big Ten Conference, Department Fall, Mid-Winter , Convention or Testimonial).
- U. 5 points for sponsoring a hole at any veteran oriented golf outing / tournament. (Maximum of 20 points)
- V. 5 points per member that attends the 2027 Camp Trotter golf outing.
- W. 5 points per each level of Teacher of the Year level (K-5, Elementary, High School) submitted to District judging (15 points maximum).

Donations:

5 points for each \$25.00 donated to VFW State Headquarters for the following activities: (maximum \$100, 20 Points) per category:

- i. VFW National Home (to include Post donations made at the National Home on Michigan Day)
- ii. Day of Challenges
- iii. Gold Star Mothers
- iv. Camp Trotter – General or Scholarship Fund
- v. National Cemeteries
- vi. Mental Health and Welfare (Department fund)
- vii. National VMS Fund
- viii. Youth Scholarship Fund (Scouts & JROTC)
- ix. Cancer Fund
- x. Homeless Veterans Fund
- xi. Veterans Service Office Fund
- xii. POW / MIA Fund
- xiii. Keres Burial Assistance Fund (Department Fund)
- xiv. Foxhole Fund
- xv. Heroes to Hives Fund
- xvi. State Disaster Relief Fund
- xvii. Fisher House Michigan
- xviii. VFW Charities of Michigan
- xix. 15 points for a minimum donation of \$75.00 to the National DPAA Program through the National Program Dashboard.
- xx. 20 points for a minimum donation of \$125.00 to the National NVS Program through the National Program Dashboard.
- xxi. 20 points for a minimum donation of \$100.00 to the Commander's Special Project, replacement of floors in the camper's cabins at VFW Camp Trotter. Donations to the Commander's Special Project must be made to State Headquarters and be earmarked as such.
- xxii. 50 points for fully sponsoring a child to Camp Trotter (\$475.00) by a direct sponsorship or donation to the Camp Trotter Scholarship Fund.

Donations made to support local community programs that support scouting, cancer treatment, veterans' mental health & welfare (to include direct assistance or support of programs such as Honor Flight) or homeless veterans (lodging and / or food programs) may receive credit for All-State Program purposes with proof of the donation (copy of check or receipt from the organization) provided to VFW State Headquarters.

District Criteria: Districts must have at least 50 points accumulated from the below:

1. Districts must be 100% +1 in membership prior to June 30, 2027.
2. Districts must donate a raffle prize to the Cancer Table at both the Fall and Mid-Winter Conference, verified by the State Cancer Director.
3. Districts must hold a School of Instruction at at least one District meeting with at least 75% of Posts represented, verified by the State Representative's report.
4. Districts must hold at least one membership recruiting event involving multiple posts reported to the State Membership Director.
5. Districts must have all Post inspections completed and reported to State Inspector prior to June 1, 2027.
6. 1 point for every 1/10 of a point over 100% of prior year's membership
7. 10 points for submitting a balanced District budget to Department QM by October 15th, 2026.
8. 5 points for a half page OR 10 points for a whole page ad placed in the 2026 Big Ten Conference, Department Fall Conference, Mid-winter, convention or testimonial ad book.
9. 5 points for sponsoring a hole at any veteran oriented golf outing / tournament.
(Maximum of 20 points)
10. 10 points for each quarter an officer expense report is submitted by the District QM to the Department QM using a prescribed form provided by the Department QM.
11. 10 points for donating a raffle prize to the 2027 State Convention Cancer table.

Post Awards:

Each All-State Post Commander and Quartermaster that earn All-State honors will receive an All-State citation, pin and All-State cap at the 2027 Fall Conference.

Captain of the All-State Team will be awarded to the Post Commander of the Post with the highest accumulation of All-State program points. In the case of a tie, the Post with the greatest membership percentage will be named Captain. The Captain of the Post All-State Team will receive a \$300.00 cash award at the 2027 Fall Conference. You must attend the Fall Conference to receive this award.

District Awards:

Each All-State District Commander and Quartermaster will be recognized with a District All-State cap and citation and pin at the 2027 Fall Conference.

Captain of the District All-State Team will be awarded to the District with the highest percentage of All-State Posts.

The Captain of the District All-State Team will receive a \$300.00 cash award at the 2027 Fall Conference. You must attend the Fall Conference to receive this award.

THE VFW NATIONAL WEBSITE WILL BE USED FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION (www.vfw.org). NO EXCEPTIONS! ENSURE THAT YOU ALLOW FOR PROCESSING TIME. THE STATE CHECKLIST, DONATIONS PAGE, ACTIVITY REPORTS, AND DIRECTOR'S INFORMATION WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE ALL-STATE STATUS.

The All State Program application and checklist MUST be completed and submitted to the All-State Director prior to June 30, 2027, preferably by email. The checklist portion is for your record keeping and will be of assistance to the Director if completed. Post Commanders will have until June 30 to meet the reporting and donation requirements for All State contest criteria, but the application must be received by the All State Director prior to June 30. Please plan ahead. Contact the Director with any questions.

Michael Martin, All-State Director,
199 East 34th St., Apt 2,
Holland MI 49423
616-594-9151
allstate@vfwmi.vet

Rev 8.2.26